Example A

Peer Observation for Formative Assessment of Teaching

Faculty Member Observed __Xinya Du_____ Rank _Assistant Professor__

Date of Observation ____9/30/2024_____ Course Observed ____ CS 6320 NLP __

Type of Course (lecture, lab, etc.) _____Lecture_____

Comments

Quality of the syllabus:
Clear and easy to follow

Quality of instruction:

Strengths and innovations

- Gave a great overview at the start of class to let the students know what would be covered and gave summaries after each section to review the main points of what was covered.
- Talked about the real world implications of the topics, like how it could be used to detect plagiarism and racial and religious biases that can come from the word embedding process.
- **Stopped for questions periodically (could be a bit more often, with specific questions to gage comprehension).**
- Also gave concrete examples like of the distributional word similarity, **asked students to identify the potential word meaning based on context to encourage class participation.**
- Did a great job **responding to student questions and asking them to think through some problems**.
- Talked about what would be covered in upcoming lectures and when, related to the topics he was covering.
- Provided references on the slides for key concepts
- Linked concepts covered in class to their previous homework and upcoming exam.
- Had them work through a problem in class and walked through questions.

Areas for improvement

- Dr Du did well encouraging participation, but could have done so more with more specific questions to gage learning.
- Could make the slide a bit more engaging, but that is minor, they were all clear and easy to follow which is more important than making them pretty.